Approved For Release 2002/08/28 : CIA-RDP63-00313A000600120022-9 NRO REVIEW COMPLETED TOP SECRET COR-0347 Copy 5 25X1 19 February 1959 MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence : Deputy Director, (Plans) HOKAMITY : Visit of Deputy Director of Central Intelligence JUBJECT and Party to Vandenberg Air Force Bane 1. This memorandum is for information only. 2. The first shot in the DISCOVERER progress will be launched from Vandemberg Air Force Base on 25 February 1999. This Launch is a purely engineering shot and will not contain a COHOMA payload. The CORONA payload is being assembled at Palo Alto, California and will transported to Vandamberg Air Force Base prior to a COROMA shot. At that time it will be taken directly to the payload assembly building in the Lockheed area. This building will be need by CORCHA payload technicians identified as Lockheed Advanced Engineering Personnel and the Bio-medical personnel. Each group will occupy one-half of the building. The Advanced Engineering section of the building should be smalled as presence of personalities connected with intelligence might imply that the Advanced Engineering section is interested in recommissance. 3. Following is a list of COROGA cleared key personsel in the organization indicated that may be in contact with the visiting Agency party. AFEMD Assens Root James V. Plumer Col. Fredrick Oder Col. Herry L. Evens Gen. Thomas D. White SPACE TEXTE. LAB Gen. Curtis E. Lensy dr. Allen Frencis Donoven Mr. Richard E. Horner SAC Gen. Rorace M. Hade Ocn. Thomas S. Power

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ARPA

Mr. Roy Johnson

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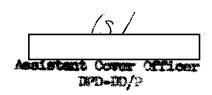
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It should be noted that some of the members of the Agency party are not COMMIA cleared.

4. Extreme press interest will be shown in this particular launch since it is the first launch from Vandamberg Air Force Same. Although the entire DESCOVERER series is to be known as an R & D effort, the press has speculated as to a possible comera carrying capability in later launches. An example of this speculation is found in the following quote from the 16 Peterbery edition of Arietics West:

. . . . No comerces will be convict in initial shot. Except for changes in payload makeup, Discoverer is essentially the same as WAF's NS-117L Sentry recommissions setallite . . . .

The above quotation and others clearly indicate that the press has not entirely accepted the R & D story and is looking for evidence of a recommande expebility. For this reason may paramalities connected with intelligence collection, especially photographic intelligence collection, must be extremely coreful that their mere presence at the Launch site is not interpreted as a confirmation of the apeculation about the recommandeence capability of later DISCOVERED payloads.



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